## State of Idaho

## DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

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Governor

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 30, 2010

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## **Idaho Fraud Awareness Coalition Sponsors Scholarship Contest**

High School Seniors encouraged to participate

BOISE ID (March 30, 2010) – In an effort to help teens understand the cost and impact of fraud on society, the Idaho Fraud Awareness Coalition, sponsored by the Idaho Department of Insurance, is offering scholarships to high school seniors.

Department Director Bill Deal says, "We encourage high school seniors throughout the state to participate in this contest. Young people entering the insurance market as consumers need to be aware of the dangers and consequences of fraud."

Three scholarships, funded by Farmers Insurance, will be awarded: \$1,000 first place, \$750 second place and \$250 third place. Winners will notified in writing by the Coalition on or before June 1, 2010.

"Insurance fraud is a felony in Idaho. This is the message we want to bring to all Idahoans," Farmers Insurance State Executive Director Kris Pacey says. "We are working to encourage people to come forward and report fraud."

To be considered for the scholarship, students must submit an original, typewritten essay at least 500 words in length on the topic, "How Fraud Impacts Idahoans." Essays must include a bibliography and cover page identifying the author and contact information.

Essays must be postmarked no later than Thursday, April 15, and mailed to:

Tricia Carney, Public Information Specialist, Idaho Department of Insurance, 700 W. State Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Boise, ID 83720-0043.

Contact Tricia Carney, <u>tricia.carney@doi.idaho.gov</u>, or Bob Ricketts, Scholarship Chair, <u>bobricketts@rickettsinsurance.com</u>, with questions.

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